NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

July 7, 1995

LIFE INSURANCE NOTICE

For those staff who have life insurance deductions for supplemental coverage, your deductions may increase as a result of either an age change or an increase in salary. The July 7, 1995 paycheck will reflect any adjustments to the supplemental life insurance deductions following the addition of merit increases. Please call **Jennifer Noe** at X526 If you have any questions.

WISCONSIN DELLS DISCOUNT TICKETS

The Personnel Office has a large supply of discounted ticket package information for the Wisconsin Dells. You can save up to 35% off regular attraction prices. If you are interested, please stop by the Personnel Office for more information.

ATTENTION ALL STAFF

Effective Monday, July 10, 1995, the Personnel Office will be closed during the lunch hour (12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.). We are sorry for this inconvenience, and we expect to return to open lunch hours when a replacement has been found for **Alicia Vasquez** who has now joined the Women's Board staff. Thank you for understanding

CREDIT UNION VISIT ANNOUNCEMENT

A representative from Chicago First Credit Union will be at Field Museum on *Monday, July 10, 1995, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the back of Picnic in the Field* (near the vending machines) to:

- Explain and answer questions about services
- Enroll new members
- Help current members open additional accounts
- Complete forms for payroll deductions - changes or additions

As a staff member of The Field Museum, you and your family can enjoy a wide range of financial services from Chicago First Credit Union. Be sure to stop by.

CENTER FOR CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING AND CHANGE

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

On June 1st, **Ben Bronson** (Anthropology) gave a talk on "Blanc-de-Chine Kiln Sites: Archaeological Survey in Southeastern China" to the Archaeological Institute of America and the Department of Art History, University of Chicago. The talk was given at the Cochrane-Woods Art Center at the University of Chicago.

On June 15, **Chuimei Ho** (Anthropology) presented the Annual Meeting Lecture of the Oriental Ceramic Society, London. Her talk was held in the splendid lecture room of the Society of Antiquaries at the Royal Academy of Art on Picadilly. She spoke on "Form and Function of Chinese Ceramics during the Yuan (Mongol) Dynasty, 13th – 14th Centuries A.D."

CENTER FOR EVOLUTIONARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

ATP SEMINAR SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The seminar schedule for the Advanced Training Program in the Conservation of Biological Diversity has now been finalized. The remaining *faculty seminars*, all of which will take place at *10:00 a.m. in the Zoology Classroom*, are as follows:

July 10 -- **Doug Stotz** (Field Museum): Diversity and endemism patterns in Neotropical birds.

July 12 -- Bob Lacy (Brookfield Zoo): Using computer modeling to assist in endangered species management and recovery.

July 17 -- **Greg Mueller** (Field Museum): Biodiversity and conservation issues of macrofungi.

July 19 -- **Anna Roosevelt** (Field Museum): 12,000 years of human-environment interaction in Amazonia.

July 26 -- Jeanne Altmann (Brookfield Zoo): The role of behavior in conservation.

July 31 -- **Steve Goodman** (Field Museum): Multidisciplinary elevational transects.

August 2 -- Tim Sullivan (Brookfield Zoo): The evolution of zoos as conservation organizations.

August 7 -- **Francie Muraski-Stotz** (Field Museum): The role of exhibits in conservation education.

August 9 -- **Bob Inger** (Field Museum): Monitoring declining amphibian populations.

August 14 -- Michael Jenkins (MacArthur Foundation): Issues in the sustainable development of tropical forests.

August 16 -- Doel Soejarto (UIC): Plant drug discovery and benefit sharing.

August 21 -- Mary Ashley (UIC): Molecular conservation genetics.

August 23 -- **Barry Chernoff** (Field Museum): Freshwater issues in conservation.

In addition to the above *faculty* seminars, the seminars by the ATP *participants* will take place in the Zoology Classroom on *Tuesdays at noon* from July 11 through August 22, with one additional seminar on Monday, July 24 at noon. Announcements for all of the seminars will be posted throughout the Museum.

NEWS FROM THE MAMMAL MEETINGS

At the American Society of Mammalogists' 75th annual meeting in Burlington, Vermont, Field Museum staffers and affiliates comprised about 2% of the total participants! A chronological account follows: **Larry Heaney** and **Bruce Patterson** (Zoology, Mammals) attended the Board of Directors meetings; **Barbara Harney** (Academic Affairs) organized and moderated a workshop on biological field stations; **Pamela Austin** (UIC), as winner of the A. Brazier Howell Award, presented her Master's research in the meeting's opening plenary session; **John Flynn** (Geology) organized, moderated, and presented a paper in a symposium on the evolution of the Carnivora; and Bruce Patterson chaired a Zoogeography session and presented the Society's highest research award at the annual banquet, where **Joe Walsh** (Univ. Chicago) was awarded a Grant-in-Aid of Research. Oral research presentations were delivered on African mammals by Barb Harney, **Julian Kerbis**, and **Bill Stanley**; on Asian mammals by Larry Heaney; and on Neotropical mammals by Bruce and **Scott Steppan** (Univ. Chicago); poster presentations were made by **Doreen Covey** (Univ. Illinois, Chicago), **Janis Kohler** (UC), **Ginny Turner-Erfort** (UIC), and **Gina Wesley** (Northwestern Univ.). **Link Olson** (UC), **Mary Anne Rogers** (Zoology, Fishes), and Joe were enthusiastic participants throughout.

We extend our deepest sympathies to **Robert L. Harris,** on the loss of his brother, Jesse J. Lear, Jr. Visitation will be 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. and the funeral will be 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 8, 1995, at the Unity Funeral Home at 4114 South Michigan Avenue.

REMINDER: The deadline for the *Natural News* is Tuesday at noon. Material received after that time will be held for publication the following week. Please submit your material to **Carolyn Klyce** in the President's Office in WordPerfect on diskette. Thanks.

FROM THE SUGGESTION BOX COMMITTEE:

YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS

July 6, 1995

It's been almost seven months since our last report. We're sorry for the delay -- in the coming months, we will be responding more regularly. But, we received the following suggestions:

1) A staff member requested helpful hints on staying healthy in close and common quarters through the winter. They hoped we could answer this before the summer solstice!

   Sorry, we did not respond before the summer solstice! But, even if we did, none of us has any helpful hints on not catching anything (colds, flu, etc.) while still having contact with others. Reminder to browse *Vitality Magazine*, which comes out monthly and is sent to all departments. If you can't find *Vitality Magazine*, contact the Personnel Department.

2) Someone voiced their concern that "diversity" and "multiculturalism" was not actualized when the Museum created the *What is an Animal* video that is included in the exhibit, stating that the video is not multicultural and inclusive.

   The Exhibits Department also directly received this feedback (perhaps the same memo) and has been looking into this concern. We have sent a copy of this memo to the Exhibits Department requesting a response which will be included in a future issue of the *Natural News.*

3) A staff member suggested that now that summer is here, it would be nice to place a few tables along the balcony at the west entrance for staff to eat lunch and enjoy the sunshine.

   Sounds lovely, but we think there are safety and accessibility concerns. We have passed this suggestion along to **Richard Koontz**, Safety Coordinator, for consideration and a response.

4) Why aren't there more garbage cans throughout the Museum -- especially outside each exhibit where it seems food and everything else ends up on the floors. Also, one under the suggestion box might eliminate candy wrappers.

   We wholeheartedly support your suggestion about placing a trash can under the three suggestion boxes -- sometimes we receive more garbage than suggestions! Food or drink is not allowed anywhere in the Museum except in designated food areas: McDonald's, Picnic, and Museum events. This is done for specimen/artifact conservation and pest control. Do trash cans in front of each exhibit create areas where pests begin to migrate and settle? However, this is a good suggestion. We know Public Services has been taking many steps to address these issues. Therefore, we have passed your suggestion on to the Director of Public Services, **Diane White**. Also, reminder: if you see a problem in the public area that needs attention, call PROBLEM BUSTERS x811.